

**DEPARTMENT OF BOATING AND WATERWAYS**

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April 6, 2011

TO: All Interested Parties

RE: Vessel Turn-In Program

As required by the provisions of Assembly Bill (AB) 166 (Chapter 416, Statutes of 2009), the Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW) has implemented the Vessel Turn In Program (VTIP) to address the problem of abandoned vessels on California's waterways.

The purpose of the program is to allow vessel owners to turn-in their vessels in lieu of abandonment.

VTIP is a pilot program that allows public local agencies to apply for grant funds to administer a turn-in program in their jurisdiction. Funding for the program comes from the Abandoned Watercraft Abatement Fund (AWAF), but is separate from the existing AWAF program and receives separate budget authority. Participation in the current AWAF program is not required to participate in VTIP.

Per Harbors and Navigation Code §527, a 10 percent matching contribution is required. In-kind contributions will be considered; however preference will be given to those agencies that provide a matching contribution in funds.

Interested agencies must submit a Letter of Intent to participate in VTIP by **April 30, 2011**. The letter must include a Work Plan that details the agency's plan for implementing a vessel turn-in program. The plan should include details for the administrative process, removal and storage process, and vessel destruction plans. Additionally the plan should include information on how the agency will accept vessels, such as daily, monthly etc. and the agency's advertising plan.

Please see the attached SAMPLE Letter of Intent, Request for Grant Funding, and SAMPLE Release of Interest forms for reference.

DBW will review all applications and award grants by July 1, 2011 or as soon as budgetary authority is given. If awarded a grant, agencies will be required to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with DBW. The MOU will include general terms and conditions and VTIP reporting requirements.

If you have any questions concerning VTIP, please contact Denise Peterson at (916) 263-8181 or via e-mail at [dpeterson@dbw.ca.gov](mailto:dpeterson@dbw.ca.gov).